GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4713
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008
WASTE FLOWING WATER FOR HYDRO POWER GENERATION
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge potential of hydel power in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposed to harness the waste flowing river water of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the efforts being made in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. As per the re-assessment studies of hydro-electric potential of the country, completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, the economically exploitable hydro power potential has been estimated at 84,044 MW at 60% load factor. When fully developed this would result in an installed capacity of about 1,50,000 MW. A total of 845 hydro-electric schemes have been identified in various basins.

Further, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) had conducted a Ranking Study in 2001-02 in which 399 schemes with an aggregate capacity of 1,06,910 MW were prioritized on the basis of various aspects involved in the development of hydro schemes. Based on the Ranking Studies, the 50,000 MW Hydroelectric Initiative was launched by Government of India during 2003-04, under which Preliminary Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 162 attractive hydroelectric projects in 16 states have been prepared. Based on the results of the Pre-Feasibility Reports, 77 schemes aggregating to an installed capacity of 33,951 MW, whose first year tariff works out below Rs. 2.50 / kWh, have been taken up for detailed survey & investigation and preparation of DPRs. This exercise would provide a shelf of bankable DPRs for development of hydroelectric schemes which would yield benefits during 11th Plan period and beyond.

In addition to above, the Government has recently announced a new Hydro Policy incorporating several steps and measures to facilitate accelerated development of hydro power. The Policy also encourages greater participation by the private sector.

The hydro installed capacity at the end of 10th Plan was 34,654 MW. A target of hydro capacity addition of 16,553 MW has been set for the 11th Plan period.